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## NEWS AND COMMENTS

Among those who attended the eleventh annual meeting of the Mississippi valley historical association at St. Paul and Minneapolis, May 9 to 11, the sentiment seemed to be unanimous that the committee on local arrangements was deserving of the greatest praise. Everything possible was done for the comfort and entertainment of those present. The numerous courtesies began on Thursday with a luncheon at the St. Paul association of business and public affairs, an automobile tour of the twin cities followed by tea at the university club of St. Paul in the afternoon, and a reception in the evening, tendered by the Minnesota historical society following the presidential address of Professor St. George L. Sioussat. Most of Friday was spent at the university of Minnesota where a luncheon was given by the university, and at a group dinner in the evening at the campus club the members of the history faculty of the university were hosts; following the evening session came a smoker at the Minnesota club of St. Paul. Saturday morning, upon the arrival of Professor Frederick J. Turner, a group breakfast was given in his honor at the St. Paul hotel; a luncheon on Saturday was tendered to the members of the Mississippi valley historical association by the St. Paul association, the Minnesota historical association, and the Twin City history teachers' club; Professor Thomas F. Moran, now of the committee on public information, Washington, D. C., gave the principal address, on "The fight for public opinion." Following the dedication of the new building erected by the state of Minnesota for the use of the Minnesota historical society, the building was open for inspection on Saturday afternoon; the inspection was followed by a supper served in the galleries of the historical building. Following the dedicatory address by Professor F. J. Turner, on "Middle western pioneer democracy," the building was again open for inspection. It may safely be said that the social functions were more numerous and better arranged than is normally the case at such meetings.

Considering the numerous financial demands made upon all at this time and the difficulties of travel, the meeting was very well attended. The geographical distribution represented in the persons in attendance was wider than had been expected. Many voiced the sentiment that the program of papers was an attractive one, with an interesting variety of subjects.

At the business meeting Professor Harlow Lindley of Earlham college

was elected president for the ensuing year. The executive committee voted to hold the next meeting of the association in St. Louis.

In the April, 1918, *Southwestern historical quarterly* Charles E. Chapman describes "The Native Sons fellowships." The Native Sons of the Golden West, a Californian fraternal society, has the unique distinction of devoting its energies and funds entirely to the promotion of California history; to this end two fellowships of \$1500 each have, since 1911, been given annually to the university of California to be devoted to the study of state history in Spain or England; since the entrance of the United States into the war, four resident fellowships have been substituted for the two traveling fellowships.

The department of history at the university of California in coöperating with the Native Sons to initiate systematic research in California history secured Professor Herbert E. Bolton, specialist in the field of the former Spanish frontier, to have principal charge of graduate study. The fellowships themselves have been especially fruitful in productive work, though most of the volumes are still in process of publication by the university of California. It is noteworthy, however, that upon the investigations of the first fellow, Lawrence Palmer Briggs, depended in large degree the publication of Herbert Ingram Priestly's volume on *José de Galvez* — a work which has recently received such marked honor. The second Native Sons' fellow, Charles E. Chapman, was, upon his return from Spain, made the first instructor in the history of California at that university. In the March, 1918, number of the *Grizzly bear*, which is the official organ of the Native Sons and at the same time a magazine of California history, Mr. Chapman tells of his "Producing class in California history." It is through his coöperation with the *Grizzly bear* that one phase of producing work has been greatly stimulated: a new spirit imbues the student who hopes that his term paper may be among those deemed of sufficient import for publication in the *Grizzly bear*.

It is not at all apparent why Jacob Van der Zee should, in the March, 1918, issue of *Iowa and war* present an interpretation of "The Black Hawk war" formulated upon material which the sympathetic historian would cull out. The use of such phrases as "the Indian's ceaseless desire to murder"; the incorporation of the statement — which no available evidence covers — that Black Hawk in 1832 brought his band "back to the village site of their fathers to raise their corn"; and the markedly inadequate treatment of Stillman's defeat — make one wonder whether this method of depicting an event can be covered by the canons of sound historical criticism.

The Loubat prizes for the best works on the history, geography, ar-

chaeology, ethnology, philology, or numismatics of North America, which have been printed and published in the English language for the five year period since January 1, 1913, have been awarded by resolution of the trustees of Columbia university as follows:

The first prize of \$1,000 to Clarence Walworth Alvord, Ph. D., professor of history in the university of Illinois, for his work entitled *The Mississippi valley in British politics: a study of the trade, land speculation, and experiments in imperialism culminating in the American revolution*, 2 volumes, 1916.

The second prize of \$400 to Herbert Ingram Priestly, Ph.D., assistant professor of history in the university of California, for his work entitled *José de Gálvez, visitor-general of New Spain, 1767-1771*. 1 volume, 1916.

In the April, 1917, *Journal of the Illinois state historical society* Judson Fiske Lee presents a large mass of badly organized material under the title "Transportation—a factor in the development of northern Illinois previous to 1860."

Archibald Henderson has utilized Spanish manuscript and archive material in order to build up a comprehensive view of a hitherto neglected phase of state history; his "Spanish conspiracy in Tennessee" appears in the December, 1917 *Tennessee historical magazine*; in the same number is a third selection from the rich collection of the Donelson papers. The letters, running from 1846-1856, have been selected for their general political interest or their relation to the career of Andrew J. Donelson.

Chauncey Samuel Boucher publishes "The secession and coöperation movements in South Carolina, 1848 to 1852" as the April, 1918 *Washington university studies*; manuscript, and in particular, newspaper material have been drawn on largely in the preparation of this excellent monograph.

In the March, 1918 *Indiana magazine of history* J. Edward Murr continues in the same local colorful strain "Lincoln in Indiana," and Elmore Barce contributes "Topenbee and the decline of the Pottawattomie nation."

The state historical society of Iowa, has issued a bulletin which purposes to point out to public libraries, local historical societies, and local historians of Iowa, the important patriotic service connected with the *Collection and preservation of the materials of war history*.

Among the contributions of the *American economic review* for March, 1918, are Carl C. Plehm's "State market commission of California," and William M. Duffus' "Government control of the wheat trade in the

United States," the "supplement" to the same number publishes the papers and proceedings of the thirtieth annual meeting of the American economic association.

Earl S. Fullbrook in the *Iowa journal of history and politics* for April, 1918, most interestingly develops "Relief work in Iowa during the civil war," a sketch of which he recently published in *Iowa and war*.

The *Political science quarterly* for March, 1918, contains Edwin R. A. Seligman's "The war revenue act," Edward Krehbiel's "European commission of the Danube," Ordway Tead's "British reconstruction programs," and Robert Livingston Schuyler's "Abolition of British imperial preference, 1846-1860."

The *Military historian and economist* for April, 1918, prints as a supplement with separate pagination, the first installment of a confidential memorandum, issued by the German general staff on, "The railroad concentration for the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71." Although the document refers to conditions fifty years ago, the fundamental principles then laid down hold good now; they offer an excellent starting point for solving the complex problems of today. Among the contributions in the same number Paul Azan discusses "The historical section in a general staff," T. N. Carver presents the question "Are we in danger of becoming Prussianized," and Victor S. Clark, in the space of eight pages, lightly disposes of "Manufacturing development during the civil war."

In number two, of volume five of the university of Iowa monographs, Paul S. Peirce by summarizing the "Social surveys of three rural townships in Iowa," puts into accessible form information concerning country life in southeastern Iowa.

In order that the causal geographic factor in history might be systematically incorporated in history study in high schools, H. A. Bone, of Sioux City, Iowa, has written the laboratory manual *Geographic factors in American history* to accompany the study of United States history. In it he outlines thirty-seven "problems" covering the principal movements in the development of the United States; each problem — in giving historical references, topics for study and recitation, note book work, things to do, and things to think about — strives to lead the student to independent thinking.

In the May, 1918, *Bulletin of the Illinois council of geography teachers* Douglas C. Ridgley presents "The home state as a unit of geographic study," using the state of Illinois to illustrate the factors in such a study.

Victor Hugo Paltsits, keeper of manuscripts in the New York public library has selected and published in pamphlet form five representative letters from the collection of one hundred seventy-two *Letters of American clergymen, 1711 to 1860* recently presented the New York public library by Simon Gratz. Although the subject matter of the letters is generally ecclesiastical, important public matters and early American education also receive generous attention in them.

John M. Cooper's *Analytical and critical bibliography of the tribes of Fierra del Fuego and adjacent territory* is published as Bulletin 63, Smithsonian institution, bureau of American ethnology.

An account of "Missouri's first centennial day," Columbia, Missouri, January 8, 1918, and a tribute to the librarian and bibliographer, Francis Asbury Sampson, 1842-1918, by Floyd C. Shoemaker, appear in the April, 1918, *Missouri historical review*.

Edward A. Miller's monograph "The history of educational legislation in Ohio" and its elaborate index comprise the January and April issues of the *Ohio archaeological and historical quarterly*.

*The Minnesota history bulletin* for February, 1918, prints a memorial "James J. Hill," by Joseph G. Pyle and "The organization of the volunteer army in 1861 with special reference to Minnesota," by John D. Hicks.

Three years ago the growing need of students in the Hispanic-American field for a periodical devoted to the southern countries of the Americas became acutely recognized, and plans for a newcomer among special historical publications were set on foot. The project — which Woodrow Wilson feels "ought to lead to very important results both for scholarship and for the increase of cordial feeling throughout the Americas," — fruited in *The Hispanic American historical review*, appearing for the first time in February, 1918. It is a dignified journal of over a hundred pages and is to be published quarterly by its board of editors; James A. Robertson is managing editor and with him are associated Charles E. Chapman, Isaac J. Cox, Julius J. Klein, William R. Manning, and William Spence Robertson. To this first number Charles H. Cunningham contributes "The institutional background of Spanish-American history," Charles W. Hackett, "The delimitation of political jurisdictions in Spanish North America to 1535," and William Spence Robertson, "The recognition of the Spanish colonies by the motherland."